

Remarks

Claims 1-18 were pending prior to the above amendments. Claim 16 is canceled. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-15 and 17 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner maintained his rejections of (1) Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,069,690 ("Xu"), (2) Claims 10 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,191,850 ("Chiang") and (3) Claims 1-9 and 11-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(e) as being unpatentable over Xu in view of European Patent Publication 760 486 A1 ("Lassalle"). As amended, each of Claims 1-15 and 17-18 recites a configuration neither disclosed nor suggested by any of Xu, Chiang, Lassalle, or any combination of these references. Accordingly, Claims 1-15 and 17-18 are believed allowable over these references. Reconsideration and allowance are therefore requested.

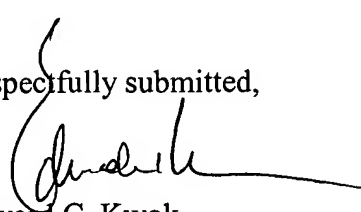
For the reasons set forth above, all claims (i.e., Claims 1-15 and 17-18) are believed allowable and their allowance is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the above, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicants at 408-392-9250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 15, 2004.

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11/15/2004  
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